

I am concerned that the programming I see on TV and hear on radio is by and large not in the service of the people.

I believe the FCC's mission should be to protect the airways so that we are not FED political party lines and be made to think in ways that corporations wish us to.

I also object to the new level of consorship the FCC has adopted. To show bloody gunfights nightly and to punish broadcasters for using what the FCC (or the current administration) thinks to be "swear words" in programming is inconsistent. It supports violence in our communities and makes us all wary of what citizens should and should not say to each other. It's a practice that I find immoral.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.